

WORKS IN THE PROVINCES.

On Tuesday, the 1st instant, at noon, the ceremony took place of laying, not the foundation, but a main corner-stone of the new church, at South Milford, a township in the parish of Sherburn. The church will be in the early-pointed style of architecture, and consist of a nave 52 feet by 27½ feet; chancel 28½ feet by 18 feet; octagonal vestry on north side of the latter, and porches on the north side and west end of the former; the gable to the west is surmounted by a bell turret, which, the site being in a central and elevated part, will supply that feature so essential to an English village. The cost of the fabric will rather exceed £1,400. The accommodation provided will be for 240 adults and 60 children. The architect is Mr. George Fowler Jones, of York. The Rev. Mr. Matthews, the Vicar of Sherburn, who officiated in laying the stone, stated in his address that the patrons of the benefice and others proposed to raise a sufficient sum for the construction of a house for a resident minister, and a school-room for the children. The church will be dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

On Easter Monday, the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new church took place at Woodford, a village pleasantly situated in the Avon valley, about midway between Salisbury and Amesbury. The ponderous corner stone, forming the south-east angle of the church, was laid with due ceremony by Mrs. Duke, supported by Archdeacon Lear. The tower is the only part left remaining of the old church, the building having become very much out of repair through lapse of time. The new church will have an additional aisle, there being one only on the south side before. Mr. Wyatt is the architect.

At Eastover, near Bridgewater, the new church, to be dedicated to St. John, is nearly finished, and will be consecrated in a short time by the Bishop of Salisbury. It is designed in the early English style, and substantially built of stone. The south side of the church has a deeply-recessed and ornamented doorway. The whole of the windows are completed, and consist of richly-stained glass. The roof and arched ends are of beautiful carved work. This is the only church in the town or neighbourhood where every sitting will be free, there being accommodation for about 500.

The railway works at Ely are proceeding with great rapidity. Near the bridge above one hundred labourers and artisans are actually employed. The station will be situated on the south side of the bridge, and is to be built of wood; but, upon some future occasion, it will be removed for an elegant structure of stone. The report that the company have given the contractors an extra month to finish the line from Brandon to London is untrue. It will be fully completed by July 1st.

At the West-Riding Sessions at Pontefract, held last week, a motion was made by Mr. Hall to authorize the inhabitants of Wetherby to take down the old Court-house, which was now of no use to the Riding. A memorial had been presented last year, which was referred to a committee; and that committee had reported in favour of the request. It appeared that the inhabitants had raised by subscription 700*l.* to which a gentleman proposed to add another 100*l.*; and the object required was to be allowed to take down the old Court-house, the property of the Riding, throw the site thereof to the Market-place, and to erect some public buildings thereupon. After some discussion by the magistrates, it was agreed that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, on an arrangement being entered into by the parties for allowing the use of a room over the building for the West-Riding magistrates, as may be satisfactory to the committee already appointed.

The Scott Monument at Edinburgh, having been most satisfactorily completed by Mr. Lind, the builder, a public dinner was last week given to that gentleman, Alexander Robertson, Esq., of Eldin, in the chair.

At Windsor, St. George's Chapel has just been embellished with two additional stained-glass windows, executed by Mr. Willement. These windows are in the north side of the chapel, immediately under the Royal closet, and facing the back of the tomb of King Edward the Fourth, and his Queen, Elizabeth Wydeville. In the two centre compartments

of one of the windows are full-length figures of Edward and his queen, attired in their robes of state, in devotional attitude, over the sacred volume. The two outer compartments contain the armorial bearings of that monarch, and also of his queen. The other new window adjoining is to be called the "Rutland Window," and contains the arms of Ann, daughter of Richard Duke of York, Thomas Earl of Rutland, Richard Duke of York, Richard Earl of Cambridge, and Ann, daughter of Thomas St. Ledger. Mr. Willement has also filled up the three compartments left in one of the new windows fronting the royal closet with the arms of the King of the French, the Duke Saxe Coburg and Gotha, and Philip Earl de Grey, the three newly installed knights of the most honourable and noble Order of the Garter. The fountain decided upon by the Board of Green Cloth, to be placed in the new Royal gardens at Windsor, is now complete, and was played for the first time on Friday last, before Sir Thomas Marables, who attended on the part of the board, and approved of it.

The committee for managing the erection of new churches within the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull have made the requisite arrangements for immediately proceeding with the third, in the recently endowed district of St. Paul's. Plans and specifications have been advertised for, and it is confidently anticipated that the additional means required for carrying them into effect will be readily contributed, and insure an early completion of the work.

Lord Lytton has addressed a circular to the gentry of the neighbourhood of Stourbridge, in the name of a committee of gentlemen formed for the purpose of extending hospital accommodation to the district.

The *Gloucestershire Chronicle* states that his Royal Highness Prince Albert is expected to lay the foundation-stone of the new Agricultural College at Cirencester.

At Kirkcaldy, in Scotland, a bonded warehouse is now in the course of erection on the ground immediately on the east side of the harbour.

A new church, now fast approaching to completion at Sowton, near Exeter, has been built, at a cost of 3,000*l.*, by the munificence of John Garrett, Esq., of Bishop's-court. Mr. Garrett was one of the Aldermen of London for many years, and highly-respected in the metropolis. He accumulated a handsome competency by activity and integrity in mercantile and commercial pursuits, and retired into Devonshire, where he has made large purchases of landed property, and where, as a country gentleman, he has acquired the general esteem of the nobility, gentry, and all classes. He possesses a large portion of the parish of Sowton.

The Hon. H. Herbert, son of the Earl of Carnarvon, is building a new house at Street, in the parish of Blackenton, Devonshire.

THE LONSDALE MEMORIAL.

DURABILITY OF MARBLE.

WE stated in our impression of the 8th ult., that a marble statue of the late Earl of Lonsdale was about to be erected in the county of Cumberland. Since then the committee appointed to carry out the design have determined to entrust the execution of it to Mr. M. L. Watson, who is, we believe, a native of Cumberland. The following letter from the artist has been addressed to the treasurer:—

"DEAR SIR,—Permit me to submit to you for the consideration of the committee a few remarks respecting the durability of marbles.

The purest marbles are those of Tuscany. They are admirably fitted for works of art, and universally adopted in monuments and statues intended to be placed in the interiors of churches and public institutions. Not one of these will bear exposure to the atmosphere in our northern climate.

The marble of Sicily is, however, well calculated for statues and monuments intended to be erected in the open air. The triumphal arch in St. James's-park, embellished with figures and reliefs from designs by Flaxman, and executed by Sir Richard Westmacott, is entirely of Sicilian marble. The colossal statues of our Saviour and the Apostles, by Thorwaldsen, erected at Copenhagen, are

of the same material; and you may rest assured that the durability of this marble was satisfactorily ascertained before the sanction of the respective governments could be obtained for the adoption of it.

A colossal statue placed on a truncated column or lofty pedestal would be imposing, and endure for many centuries. The amount subscribed is nearly sufficient to defray the entire cost. There is not a marble statue in either Cumberland or Westmoreland. I cannot express to you how deeply I shall regret that any thing less important than a colossal statue in marble should be determined on as an appropriate monument to the late Earl of Lonsdale.

The subscribers may desire, however, to erect a work, still more colossal, executed in native stone, which is much less durable than Sicilian marble. Should this be resolved on, the statue 15 feet in height might be completed for the funds you have on hand.

It may be long ere so favourable an opportunity will present itself for the encouragement of sculpture in our native county. I cannot forbear expressing a hope that the art may not be forgotten by those who have so liberally subscribed, towards a memorial intended to record the virtues and eminent services of the lamented Earl of Lonsdale."

THE WATERMEN'S FLOATING PIER AT GREENWICH.

A CAUSE involving the legality of this pier was argued at Kingston on the 31st ultimo, before Lord Chief Justice Denman and a special jury. The plaintiffs were Sir Richard Dobson, the deputy inspector of hospitals, and a gentleman named Sutton; the defendant, Blackmore, was superintendent of the pier in question.

From the statement of Mr. Serjeant Channel, it appeared that the plaintiffs had purchased seven houses, some of which snugged upon the river, and others were close to it, and to the whole of which there had always been free access from the water, until the persons with whom the defendant was connected thought proper to build this pier, the effect of which was to prevent all access, and no boats or barges could get to them. The proceeding upon which the present action was founded took place in 1842, at which period the plaintiffs were desirous of repairing some of the houses which they had just purchased, and two barges containing the necessary materials were sent for that purpose. The watermen, however, refused to let them come in, and the result was that one of the barges was swamped and sunk, and the other was compelled to go a considerable distance up the river to unload, thus entailing a good deal of additional expense in performing the repairs.

Mr. Serjeant Shce, in addressing the jury on behalf of the defendant, said that they had to decide a dispute between a stone pier erected by Act of Parliament, and which belonged to the plaintiffs, and a small floating pier, which had been erected by a body of men who, finding their former means of obtaining a livelihood entirely taken away from them by the use of steam, had been compelled, in their own defence, to have boats of their own, and to erect a pier for the accommodation of the passengers who travelled by them, hoping thereby to be enabled to support themselves and families. The object of the plaintiffs, who were the proprietors of a rival pier, was to thwart and oppose them in this attempt by every means in their power. He concluded by contending that no real obstruction had been made out against the pier, and that the defendant was entitled to a verdict.

The Lord Chief Justice in summing up observed, that it ought not to make any difference to the jury if they should be of opinion that the plaintiffs had purchased the property in question solely with a view to the present proceeding. The only question for them to decide was, whether or not the free course of the water may have been obstructed, and whether the defendant was the party liable for that obstruction.

The jury, after deliberating for a few minutes, returned a verdict for the plaintiffs—damages 1*l.*

The effect of this verdict, if it is not set aside, will, of course, be to do away with the floating pier altogether.